

January 30, 1986

TO: Noncoal File

FROM: D. Wayne Hedberg, Permit Supervisor/Reclamation Hydrologist *DWH*

RE: Southwestern Portland Cement Company, Navajo Sandstone Quarry, PRO/023/010, Juab County, Utah

On January 29, 1986, Division staff members Wayne Hedberg, Randy Harden, Ev Hooper, Dave Hooper and Lynn Kunzler made an onsite field inspection of Southwestern Portland Cement's Navajo Sandstone Quarry in Juab County. We met with Mr. Dennis Harsh and Bob Feaman of Southwestern Portland Cement onsite.

The site is accessed by traveling west on Highway 132 from Nephi, Utah, approximately seven miles to the junction of a graveled county road with a stop sign at the intersection. Turn left onto this road and travel southwest approximately 2.3 miles from the intersection with State Highway 132. At this point, another newly excavated road leads off the left hand side of the road coursing south. This road extends approximately 1/2 mile to the minesite location.

Presently, the area consists of approximately five to six acres of surface disturbance. There is an excavation into the hillside with a highwall approximately 80-100 feet in height. On the southwestern edge of the property, there is approximately two to three acres which have more recently been stripped of vegetation and some of the topsoil. Portions of the rocky soil have been dozed to the bottom of the slope. This is in preparation for continued drilling and blasting of the sandstone which crops out beneath the overburden material. It was noted that this stripped area has additional soil material which may be salvagable.

The local vegetation is a sagebrush to pinyon-juniper transition zone. It is relatively undisturbed and grazing pressure is light as evidenced by the well developed cryptogams. In areas where the surface was exposed (no snow), there was a good understory of grasses and shrubs.

Surface drainage concerns would primarily involve protection of the topsoil resources currently stockpiled onsite. Ephemeral drainages bypass the site and should not present significant erosional problems.

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Mr. Harsh and Mr. Feaman were not able to answer several of the questions raised by the technical staff. Neither individual was familiar with the current permitting status with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). These properties and the mineral ownership are administered by the BLM. Neither of the company representatives knew whether the company had filed with the BLM, now that the mining operation was over five acres in surface disturbance.

They were not knowledgeable as to whether a bond or a notice of intent to commence mining activities had been filed with the BLM office. The company representatives suggested that we contact Mr. Marv Berg who is the quarry superintendent and permitting agent for Southwestern Portland Cement Company out of their Lyons, Colorado, office.

There were no active operations occurring at the time of the site visit. However, the company representatives stated that they most likely would need to bring equipment back onsite and commence additional blasting and hauling activities near the end of March 1986. Mr. Harsh was told that any correspondence that was transmitted by the Division to Mr. Berg would also be carbon copied to him. Several pictures were taken of the site.

Approximately 2/3 to 3/4 of a mile due west of the Southwestern Portland Cement site is a dozed excavation which could have been the proposed location of the Declaration of Exemption (DOE) on file under DOE/023/017. One picture was taken of this disturbance. It amounts to approximately 2/3 of an acre in surface disturbance. It appeared to have been abandoned for some time.

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